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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/537,872	03/29/2000	Nobuhiro Hoshi	35.G2564	6109

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EXAMINER

TRAN, THAI Q

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2616

DATE MAILED: 10/31/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/537,872

Applicant(s)

HOSHI ET AL.

Examiner

Thai Tran

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 August 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 34-48 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 34-48 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 March 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed Sept. 12, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants argue that neither Young nor Mankovitz, even in combination, assuming, arguendo, that the documents could be combined, discloses or suggests at least the above-discussed claimed combination of features that the external receiver (claims 34, 40, 43, and 44) or television signal receiving apparatus (claims 45, 46, 47, and 48) extracts from a signal information of a plurality of channels and stores the information in a memory of the external receiver (claims 34, 40, 43, and 44) or television signal receiving apparatus (claims 45, 46, 47, and 48), wherein the information is sent from the memory to the recording apparatus (claims 34, 40, 43, and 44) or to the external recording apparatus (claims 45, 46, 47, and 48) as claimed, in combination with the control unit or control signal and that there has been no showing of any indication of motivation in the cited documents that would lead one having ordinary skill in the art to arrive at such features.

In response, as discussed in the last Office Action. Young discloses in col. 17, lines 27-44 that vertical blanking interval (VBI) decoder 222 of television schedule system/tape controller 180 decodes the listing information and other support information such as cable channel assignment data received from the programmable tuner 202 of the cable decoder and the listing information is stored in schedule memory 232. Thus, Young indeed discloses the claimed memory and Young also teaches in col. 17, lines

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21-25 that "It should be clear from these two systems 180 and 182 that the schedule/tape controller may be integrated into other television equipment, such as a cable decoder or a TV/Monitor receiver". Mankovitz additionally teaches that the G-code decoder can be embedded in the television receiver (Fig. 32, col. 33, lines 39-50) or in the VCR (Fig. 33, col. 33, lines 51-67) or in the cable box (Fig. 34, col. 34, lines 44-67) or in the satellite receiver (Fig. 35, lines 1-24). Mankovitz is cited only to suggest that the G-code decoder can be embedded in the television receiver or in the VCR or in the cable box or in the satellite receiver. The selecting of the locations of the G-code decoder as taught by Mankovitz has similar application whether it is G-code decoder or the television schedule system/tape controller. A reference must be considered not only for what it expressly teaches, but also for that it fairly suggests. In re Burckel, 592 F.2d 1175, 201 USPQ 67 (CCPA 1979). The artisan is presumed to know something about the art apart from what references literally disclose. In re Jacoby, 309 F.2d 513, 135 USPQ 317 (CCPA 1962). The examiner believes that the artisan would have recognized the obviousness of selecting different location of the television schedule system/tape controller.

Therefore, It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the capability of integrating the control unit of Young into the external receiver or television signal receiving apparatus as taught by Mankovitz in order to increase the flexibility of the system of Young by integrating the control unit of Young into other television equipment such as VCR, television receiver, cable box or satellite receiver.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3. Claims 45-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Young (US 5,727,060) in view of Mankovitz (US 6,760,537 B2) as set forth in the last Office Action.

Regarding claim 45, Young discloses a television signal receiving apparatus (Fig. 22A), comprising:

a tuner (a programmable TV tuner of the cable decoder 202 of Fig. 22A, col. 17, lines 13-27); and

a control unit (CPU 228 of Fig. 22A, col. 17, lines 57-67) that controls said television signal receiving apparatus so as to extract from a signal information of a

plurality of channels receivable by said tuner and to store the information having been extracted in a memory of said television signal receiving apparatus, wherein said control unit controls said television signal receiving apparatus to send the information from the memory to an external recording apparatus upon power-up of said television signal receiving apparatus or upon connection of the television schedule system/tape controllers to said television signal receiving apparatus, and wherein said control unit controls said television signal receiving apparatus so as to send to the external recording apparatus a television signal of one of the plurality of channels designated by a control signal sent from the television schedule system/tape controllers to the television signal receiving apparatus. However, Young does not specifically disclose that the control signal is generated from the external recording apparatus to said television signal receiving apparatus.

Young also discloses in col. 17, lines 21-25 that "It should be clear from these two systems 180 and 182 that the schedule/tape controller may be integrated into other television equipment, such as a cable decoder or a TV/Monitor receiver". Mankovitz additionally teaches that the G-code decoder can be embedded in the television receiver (Fig. 32, col. 33, lines 39-50) or in the VCR (Fig. 33, col. 33, lines 51-67) or in the cable box (Fig. 34, col. 34, lines 44-67) or in the satellite receiver (Fig. 35, lines 1-24).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the capability of integrating the control unit of Young into the VCR as taught by Mankovitz in order to increase the flexibility of the system of Young

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by integrating the control unit of Young into other television equipment such as VCR, television receiver, cable box or satellite receiver.

Regarding claim 46, Young discloses a television signal receiving apparatus (Fig. 22A), comprising:

a tuner (a programmable TV tuner of the cable decoder 202 of Fig. 22A, col. 17, lines 13-27); and

a control unit (CPU 228 of Fig. 22A, col. 17, lines 57-67) that controls the television signal receiving apparatus so as to extract from a signal information of a plurality of programs selectable by the tuner and to store the information having been extracted in a memory of said television signal receiving apparatus, wherein said control unit controls said television signal receiving apparatus to send the information from the memory to an external recording apparatus upon power-up of said television signal receiving apparatus or upon connection of the television schedule system/tape controllers to said television signal receiving apparatus, and wherein said control unit controls said television signal receiving apparatus so as to send to the external recording apparatus a television signal of one of the plurality of programs designated by a control signal sent from the television schedule system/tape controllers to said television signal receiving apparatus. However, Young does not specifically disclose that the control signal is generated from the external recording apparatus to the television signal receiving apparatus.

Young also discloses in col. 17, lines 21-25 that "It should be clear from these two systems 180 and 182 that the schedule/tape controller may be integrated into other

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television equipment, such as a cable decoder or a TV/Monitor receiver". Mankovitz additionally teaches that the G-code decoder can be embedded in the television receiver (Fig. 32, col. 33, lines 39-50) or in the VCR (Fig. 33, col. 33, lines 51-67) or in the cable box (Fig. 34, col. 34, lines 44-67) or in the satellite receiver (Fig. 35, lines 1-24).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the capability of integrating the control unit of Young into the VCR as taught by Mankovitz in order to increase the flexibility of the system of Young by integrating the control unit of Young into other television equipment such as VCR, television receiver, cable box or satellite receiver.

Regarding claim 47, Young discloses a method of controlling a television signal receiving apparatus (Fig. 22A), comprising the steps of:

extracting by the television signal receiving apparatus, from a signal, of information of a plurality of channels receivable by the television signal receiving apparatus and storing the information having been extracted in a memory of the television signal receiving apparatus (232, 236, and 238 of Fig. 22A, col. 17, lines 37-67);

sending the information from the memory to an external recording apparatus upon power-up of the television signal receiving apparatus or upon connection of the television schedule system/tape controllers to the television signal receiving apparatus (232, 236, and 238 of Fig. 22A, col. 17, lines 37-67);

selecting one of the plurality of channels designated by a control signal sent from the television schedule system/tape controllers to the television signal receiving apparatus (col. 17, lines 57-67); and

sending a television signal of the selected channel from the television signal receiving apparatus to the external recording apparatus (VCR 206 of Fig. 22A, col. 17, lines 57-67). However, Young does not specifically disclose that the control signal is generated from the external recording apparatus to the television signal receiving apparatus.

Young also discloses in col. 17, lines 21-25 that "It should be clear from these two systems 180 and 182 that the schedule/tape controller may be integrated into other television equipment, such as a cable decoder or a TV/Monitor receiver". Mankovitz additionally teaches that the G-code decoder can be embedded in the television receiver (Fig. 32, col. 33, lines 39-50) or in the VCR (Fig. 33, col. 33, lines 51-67) or in the cable box (Fig. 34, col. 34, lines 44-67) or in the satellite receiver (Fig. 35, lines 1-24).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the capability of integrating the control unit of Young into the VCR as taught by Mankovitz in order to increase the flexibility of the system of Young by integrating the control unit of Young into other television equipment such as VCR, television receiver, cable box or satellite receiver.

Regarding claim 48, Young discloses a method of controlling a television signal receiving apparatus (Fig. 22A), comprising the steps of:

extracting by the television signal receiving apparatus, from a signal, of information of a plurality of programs selectable by the television signal receiving apparatus and storing the information having been extracted in a memory of the television signal receiving apparatus (232, 236, and 238 of Fig. 22A, col. 17, lines 37-67);

sending the information from the memory to an external recording apparatus upon power-up of the television signal receiving apparatus or upon connection of the television schedule system/tape controllers to the television signal receiving apparatus (232, 236, and 238 of Fig. 22A, col. 17, lines 37-67);

selecting one of the plurality of programs designated by a control signal sent from the television schedule system/tape (col. 17, lines 57-67); and

sending a television signal of the selected program from the television signal receiving apparatus to the external recording apparatus (VCR 206 of Fig. 22A, col. 17, lines 57-67). However, Young does not specifically disclose that the control signal is generated from the external recording apparatus to the television signal receiving apparatus.

Young also discloses in col. 17, lines 21-25 that "It should be clear from these two systems 180 and 182 that the schedule/tape controller may be integrated into other television equipment, such as a cable decoder or a TV/Monitor receiver". Mankovitz additionally teaches that the G-code decoder can be embedded in the television receiver (Fig. 32, col. 33, lines 39-50) or in the VCR (Fig. 33, col. 33, lines 51-67) or in

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the cable box (Fig. 34, col. 34, lines 44-67) or in the satellite receiver (Fig. 35, lines 1-24).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the capability of integrating the control unit of Young into the VCR as taught by Mankovitz in order to increase the flexibility of the system of Young by integrating the control unit of Young into other television equipment such as VCR, television receiver, cable box or satellite receiver.

4. Claims 34-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Young (US 5,727,060) in view of Mankovitz (US 6,760,537 B2) and further in view of d'Alayer de Costemore d'Arc (US 4,489,351).

Regarding claim 34, Young discloses a recording apparatus (Fig. 22A), comprising:

a memory (232, 236, and 238 of Fig. 22A, col. 17, lines 37-67) that stores information of a plurality of channels receivable by a tuner of an external receiver, the information being extracted by the external receiver from a signal and stored in a memory of the external receiver after having been extracted wherein the information is sent from the memory of the external receiver to said recording apparatus upon power-up of the external receiver or upon connection of said memory to the powered-up external receiver;

a control unit (CPU 228 of Fig. 22A, col. 17, lines 57-67) that controls output of a signal to the external receiver, the signal designating one of the plurality of channels

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receivable by the external receiver, based on the information stored in said memory;
and

a recording device (VCR 206 of Fig. 22A, col. 17, lines 57-67) that records a television signal sent from the external receiver in response to the channels-designating output signal. However, Young does not specifically disclose that the control unit controls output of the signal from the recording apparatus to the external receiver.

Young also discloses in col. 17, lines 21-25 that "It should be clear from these two systems 180 and 182 that the schedule/tape controller may be integrated into other television equipment, such as a cable decoder or a TV/Monitor receiver". Mankovitz additionally teaches that the G-code decoder can be embedded in the television receiver (Fig. 32, col. 33, lines 39-50) or in the VCR (Fig. 33, col. 33, lines 51-67) or in the cable box (Fig. 34, col. 34, lines 44-67) or in the satellite receiver (Fig. 35, lines 1-24).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the capability of integrating the control unit of Young into the VCR as taught by Mankovitz in order to increase the flexibility of the system of Young by integrating the control unit of Young into other television equipment such as VCR, television receiver, cable box or satellite receiver.

The proposed combination of Young and Mankovitz does not specifically disclose the claimed memory of the recording apparatus.

d'Alayer de Costemore d'Arc teaches a buffer can be installed inbetween those components to allow transmission of the data to the recording device 9 of the camera 1 at a desired rate (col. 2, lines 55-57).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the buffer as taught by d'Alayer de Costemore d'Arc into Young's system in order to allow transmission of the data to the later circuit at a desired rate.

Regarding claim 35, the combination of Young and Mankovitz also discloses all the claimed limitations as discussed in claim 34 above including that the memory of the recording apparatus is further stores information of a channel receivable by the cable (the cable-specific RAM memory 238 of Fig. 22A, col. 17, lines 37-44 of Young) except for providing that the memory stores a channel receivable by an other tuner.

Mankovitz teaches that the VCR can receive television from two different tuners (the cable box 966 and the satellite receiver 986 of Fig. 33, col. 33, lines 51-67).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the additional satellite receiver 986 as taught by Mankovitz into Young's system in order to increase the number of television channels to be received or recorded.

Regarding claim 36, the combination of Young and Mankovitz discloses all the claimed limitations as discussed in claim 34 above except for providing that said other tuner is included in the recording apparatus.

Young also teaches in other embodiment (Fig. 22B) that the programmable TV tuner of the VCR can be used instead of the programmable TV tuner of the cable decoder (col. 17, lines 13-27).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use the programmable TV tuner of the VCR instead of the programmable TV tuner of the cable decoder as taught by other embodiment of Young in order to reduce the size of the system by not using the cable decoder.

Regarding claim 37, the combination of Young and Mankovitz also discloses the claimed wherein the other tuner is included in an other external receiver (the satellite receiver 986 of Fig. 33 of Mankovitz, col. 33, lines 51-67).

Regarding claim 38, the combination of Young and Mankovitz discloses the claimed wherein said memory of the recording apparatus comprises a first memory (the schedule memory 232 of Fig. 22A of Young, col. 17, lines 45-56) that stores information of channels receivable by the external receiver and a second memory (cable-specific RAM memory 238 of Fig. 22A of Young, col. 17, lines 37-44) that stores information of a channel receivable by the other tuner.

Regarding claim 39, the combination of Young and Mankovitz discloses the claimed wherein said memory of the recording apparatus stores information of a program receivable by the external receiver (col. 17, lines 37-44 of Young).

Regarding claim 40, Young discloses a recording apparatus (Fig. 22A), comprising:

a memory (232, 236, and 238 of Fig. 22A, col. 17, lines 37-67) that stores information of a plurality of programs selectable by an external receiver, the information being extracted by the external receiver from a signal and stored in a memory of the external receiver after having been extracted, wherein the information is sent from the memory of the external receiver to said memory upon power-up of the external receiver or upon connection of said memory to the powered-up external receiver;

a control unit (CPU 228 of Fig. 22A, col. 17, lines 57-67) that controls output of a signal to the external receiver, the signal designating a channel of the plurality of channels receivable by the external receiver, based on the information stored in said memory; and

a recording device (VCR 206 of Fig. 22A, col. 17, lines 57-67) that records a television signal sent from the external receiver in response to the program-designating output signal. However, Young does not specifically disclose that the control unit controls output of the signal from the recording apparatus to the external receiver.

Young also discloses in col. 17, lines 21-25 that "It should be clear from these two systems 180 and 182 that the schedule/tape controller may be integrated into other television equipment, such as a cable decoder or a TV/Monitor receiver". Mankovitz additionally teaches that the G-code decoder can be embedded in the television receiver (Fig. 32, col. 33, lines 39-50) or in the VCR (Fig. 33, col. 33, lines 51-67) or in the cable box (Fig. 34, col. 34, lines 44-67) or in the satellite receiver (Fig. 35, lines 1-24).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the capability of integrating the control unit of Young into the VCR as taught by Mankovitz in order to increase the flexibility of the system of Young by integrating the control unit of Young into other television equipment such as VCR, television receiver, cable box or satellite receiver.

The proposed combination of Young and Mankovitz does not specifically disclose the claimed memory of the recording apparatus.

d'Alayer de Costemore d'Arc teaches a buffer can be installed inbetween those components to allow transmission of the data to the recording device 9 of the camera 1 at a desired rate (col. 2, lines 55-57).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the buffer as taught by d'Alayer de Costemore d'Arc into Young's system in order to allow transmission of the data to the later circuit at a desired rate.

Regarding claim 41, the combination of Young and Mankovitz also discloses all the claimed limitations as discussed in claim 40 above including that the memory of the recording apparatus is further stores information of a channel receivable by the cable (the cable-specific RAM memory 238 of Fig. 22A, col. 17, lines 37-44 of Young) except for providing that the memory stores a channel receivable by an other external receiver.

Mankovitz teaches that the VCR can receive television from two different external receivers (the cable box 966 and the satellite receiver 986 of Fig. 33, col. 33, lines 51-67).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the additional satellite receiver 986 as taught by Mankovitz into Young's system in order to increase the number of television channels to be received or recorded.

Regarding claim 42, the combination of Young and Mankovitz also discloses the claimed wherein said memory of the recording apparatus comprises a first memory (the schedule memory 232 of Fig. 22A of Young, col. 17, lines 45-56) that stores information of programs selectable by the external receiver and a second memory (cable-specific RAM memory 238 of Fig. 22A of Young, col. 17, lines 37-44) that stores information of a program selectable by the other external receiver.

Regarding claim 43, Young discloses a method of controlling a recording apparatus (Fig. 22A), comprising the steps of:

referring to a memory (232, 236, and 238 of Fig. 22A, col. 17, lines 37-67), which stores information of a plurality of channels receivable by an external receiver upon power-up of the external receiver or upon connection of the memory to the powered-up external receiver, and generating a signal designating one of the plurality of channels receivable by the external receiver;

sending the channel-designating signal to the external receiver (CPU 228 of Fig. 22A, col. 17, lines 57-67); and

recording a television signal sent from the external receiver to the recording apparatus in response to the channel-designating signal (VCR 206 of Fig. 22A, col. 17, lines 57-67), wherein the information is extracted from a signal by the external receiver

and stored in a memory of the external receiver after having been extracted and then is sent from the memory of the external receiver to the recording apparatus (232, 236, and 238 of Fig. 22A, col. 17, lines 37-67). However, Young does not specifically disclose that the channel designating signal is generated from the recording apparatus to the external receiver and a memory of the recording apparatus.

Young also discloses in col. 17, lines 21-25 that "It should be clear from these two systems 180 and 182 that the schedule/tape controller may be integrated into other television equipment, such as a cable decoder or a TV/Monitor receiver". Mankovitz additionally teaches that the G-code decoder can be embedded in the television receiver (Fig. 32, col. 33, lines 39-50) or in the VCR (Fig. 33, col. 33, lines 51-67) or in the cable box (Fig. 34, col. 34, lines 44-67) or in the satellite receiver (Fig. 35, lines 1-24).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the capability of integrating the control unit of Young into the VCR as taught by Mankovitz in order to increase the flexibility of the system of Young by integrating the control unit of Young into other television equipment such as VCR, television receiver, cable box or satellite receiver.

The proposed combination of Young and Mankovitz does not specifically disclose the claimed memory of the recording apparatus.

d'Alayer de Costemore d'Arc teaches a buffer can be installed inbetween those components to allow transmission of the data to the recording device 9 of the camera 1 at a desired rate (col. 2, lines 55-57).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the buffer as taught by d'Alayer de Costemore d'Arc into Young's system in order to allow transmission of the data to the later circuit at a desired rate.

Regarding claim 44, Young discloses a method of controlling a recording apparatus (Fig. 22A), comprising the steps of:

referring to a memory (232, 236, and 238 of Fig. 22A, col. 17, lines 37-67), which stores information of a plurality of programs selectable by an external receiver upon power-up of the external receiver or upon connection of the memory to the powered-up external receiver, and generating a signal designating one of the plurality of programs selectable by the external receiver;

sending the program-designating signal to the external receiver (CPU 228 of Fig. 22A, col. 17, lines 57-67); and

recording a television signal sent from the external receiver to the recording apparatus in response to the channel-designating signal (VCR 206 of Fig. 22A, col. 17, lines 57-67), wherein the information is extracted from a signal by the external receiver and stored in a memory of the external receiver after having been extracted and then is sent from the memory of the external receiver to the recording apparatus (232, 236, and 238 of Fig. 22A, col. 17, lines 37-67). However, Young does not specifically disclose that the channel designating signal is generated from the recording apparatus to the external receiver and a memory of the recording apparatus.

Young also discloses in col. 17, lines 21-25 that "It should be clear from these two systems 180 and 182 that the schedule/tape controller may be integrated into other television equipment, such as a cable decoder or a TV/Monitor receiver". Mankovitz additionally teaches that the G-code decoder can be embedded in the television receiver (Fig. 32, col. 33, lines 39-50) or in the VCR (Fig. 33, col. 33, lines 51-67) or in the cable box (Fig. 34, col. 34, lines 44-67) or in the satellite receiver (Fig. 35, lines 1-24).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the capability of integrating the control unit of Young into the VCR as taught by Mankovitz in order to increase the flexibility of the system of Young by integrating the control unit of Young into other television equipment such as VCR, television receiver, cable box or satellite receiver.

The proposed combination of Young and Mankovitz does not specifically discloses the claimed memory of the recording apparatus.

d'Alayer de Costemore d'Arc teaches a buffer can be installed inbetween those components to allow transmission of the data to the recording device 9 of the camera 1 at a desired rate (col. 2, lines 55-57).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the buffer as taught by d'Alayer de Costemore d'Arc into Young's system in order to allow transmission of the data to the later circuit at a desired rate.

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5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thai Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-7382. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. to Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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THAI TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER